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UAE approves RT-PCR labs of Dhaka airport

Flight scheduled to leave with migrants today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (Caab) has received approval from the United Arab Emirates regarding operations of RT-PCR laboratories at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport for Covid testing of passengers bound for the Gulf country.

In a letter to the Caab chairman, the UAE embassy in Dhaka yesterday said the tests are required to be carried out on the airport premises and within a maximum of six hours from departure.

The decision became effective as of noon yesterday, said the letter, signed by UAE Embassy Charge d'Affaires Abdulla Ali Al Hmoudi.

Confirming the approval, Caab Chairman Air Vice Marshal M Mafidur Rahman said they were expecting to resume passenger flights to the UAE soon.

A flight carrying Bangladeshi expatriate workers was supposed to leave Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport for Dubai in the wee hours today, said Ishraq Shahrir Angel, a health official of HSA, told The Daily Star last night.

The Caab chairman said, "The [UAE's] approval regarding the labs was needed."

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Two child labourers covered in dust while processing paper to make cones for spinning yarn. The authorities concerned remain oblivious to the health hazards and the measures that need to be taken to protect the health of the factory workers. The photo was taken in the capital's Baunia area yesterday.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

PORI ON REMAND 'They have undermined this court'

Says HC about 2 judges; orders them to explain again

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday ordered two lower court judges, who had placed actor Pori Moni on remand for the second and third time in a narcotics case, to give further explanations to it about their conducts over granting remand prayers.

The bench of Justice Mustafa Zaman Islam and Justice KM Zahid Sarwar Kajol also fixed October 24 for passing further order on this issue.

During yesterday's hearing, Attorney General AM Amin Uddin requested the HC bench to pardon the two judges (metropolitan magistrates Debbrata Biswas and Atikul Islam) for their mistakes, saying that they are very young (judicial) officers and they have lack of training.

They are sorry and repented for the mistakes, the attorney general added.

ZI Khan Panna, lawyer for Ain o Salish Kendra that filed the petition with the HC challenging the remand-granting orders,

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Form next EC with political consensus

Says CEC, hints at dialogue involving president

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The next election commission should be formed on the basis of political consensus, said Chief Election Commissioner KM Nurul Huda.

He made the statement while responding to a question after the 86th meeting of the Election Commission (EC) yesterday.

Although the duration of the incumbent commission will expire on February 14, no act has been formulated on the formation of the commission yet.

In the last two occasions, the President appointed members of the EC as per the recommendations of the search committee which sparked criticism in different quarters.

Some political parties including the

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ROAD TO FREEDOM THIS DAY IN BANGLADESH LIBERATION WAR HISTORY

Non-aligned plea for world action on Bangladesh

SEPTEMBER 30, 1971

SHAMSUDDOZA SAJEN

NON-ALIGNED JOINT COMMUNIQUE

Foreign ministers of about 50 non-aligned nations today approved a communique that included a plea for international action on the Bangladesh refugee problem.

The communique said, "A humanitarian problem of unprecedented dimensions has arisen as a result of the pouring of people across international frontiers into India. This massive influx of refugees, which is still continuing, imposes a tremendous burden on India and calls for early and effective action including action at the international level to stem the flow of these refugees, to alleviate their suffering and to promote all the conditions necessary which create confidence and ensure the inalienable rights of the refugees and their return to their homeland safely and speedily."

PAKISTAN ASKS INDIA TO SEND BACK REFUGEES Pakistan said today it had not asked India to help the country solve

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SINHA MURDER CASE OC Pradeep filed false cases to gag journalist

Victim tells court the cop tortured him

OUR CORRESPONDENTS, Cox's Bazar

Former officer-in-charge (OC) of Teknaf Police Station Pradeep Kumar Das implicated a local journalist in six criminal cases and brutally tortured him in police custody for writing on Pradeep's misdeeds, the victim testified before a court yesterday.

Faridul Mostafa said this before a Cox's Bazar court yesterday while testifying in the Major (ret'd) Sinha Mohammad Rashed Khan

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New lizard species discovered in Peru



AFP, Lima

Scientists have discovered a new lizard species in Peru, the national conservation agency said Tuesday.

The new species, called Liolaemus warjantay, was found in the Peruvian Andes at an altitude of 4,500 metres (14,700 feet), according to a statement from the National Service of Natural Areas Protected by the State.

"A valuable contribution of Peru's protected natural areas to the world is the recent discovery

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COLLEGE GIRL'S DEATH Court denies Bashundhara MD bail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday refused to grant anticipatory bail to Sayem Sobhan Anvir, managing director of Bashundhara Group, in a case filed over the alleged rape and murder of a college student in Dhaka's Gulshan in April.

The bench of Justice Mustafa Zaman Islam and Justice KM Zahid Sarwar Kajol removed the name of Sayem Sobhan Anvir from the bail petition as there are specific allegations of rape and murder against him, Assistant Attorney General Md Mizanur Rahman told The Daily Star.

The HC, however, granted six weeks' anticipatory bail to Sabrina Sayem, Anvir's wife, in the case as there was no specific allegation against her, he said.

Sabrina has been asked to surrender to the trial court concerned after expiry of her bail in the case.

The bench came up with the order after a hearing on

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Hilsa fish being salted by traders at the old fishery ghat in the port city's Firinghee Bazar area yesterday as a 22-day ban on hilsa fishing takes effect on October 4, during which the salted fish will be sold throughout the country. For every 80 pieces of salted hilsa, the price will range from Tk 1,600 to Tk 60,000 depending on the size and weight of the fish.

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Stop probe into 11 journo's bank accounts

CPJ urges govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) yesterday issued a statement demanding that authorities immediately drop their investigations into the bank accounts of 11 journalist leaders and Prothom Alo's senior reporter Rozina Islam.

They urged the authorities to commit to allow the media to operate freely and independently.

On August 11, the Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit, a government agency responsible for investigating money laundering and terrorist financing, ordered all scheduled banks to provide details of any accounts associated with Rozina.

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PRAYER TIMING SEPTEMBER 30

Fazr Zohr Asr Maghrib Esha
AZAN 4-40 12-45 4-15 6-00 7-30
JAMAAT 5-15 1-15 4-30 6-05 8-00

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

9 YEARS OF RAMU MAYHEM

No closure, no justice

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

Nine years after the mindless communal attacks on the Buddhist community in Ramu upazila of Cox's Bazar, the victims are yet to get justice as no significant progress has been made in the proceedings of cases.

A number of criminal cases filed with the lower court and two writ petitions with the High Court are still pending because the lawyers concerned have not taken extensive initiatives to get the matters settled.

Two Supreme Court lawyers filed writ petitions as public interest litigations after zealots destroyed 12 pagodas and more than 50 houses in Ramu in September 2012. Following the petitions, two investigations were done in line with HC orders.

Although probe reports identified

the attackers and found negligence of local officials in preventing the attack, the HC is yet to make a decision on the matter.

The Covid-19 pandemic caused further delays as regular court functions remained suspended for more than one and half years.

Besides, the HC is yet to hold the final hearing on the writ petitions and deliver a verdict on them due to reconstitution of its bench and apparent lack of willingness of the lawyers concerned in moving the petitions before the court.

Contacted, Attorney General AM Amin Uddin said the petitioners will have to pray to the HC for a quick hearing. Otherwise, disposals of the petitions will take a long time.

Asked whether the attorney general's office will take any steps,

he said, "I have nothing to do at this stage. We will place arguments before the High Court when it will hold a hearing on the matter."

On September 29 and 30, 2012, a group of zealots unleashed violence on the Buddhist community in Ramu after spreading rumour that the Facebook page of a local Buddhist youth, Uttam Barua, was bearing a photo demeaning Islam.

An investigation by The Daily Star later revealed the Facebook page with the anti-Islam picture was photoshopped.

The bigots set fire to Buddhist temples, vandalising and looting more than 50 houses in Ramu. They also attacked Mushurikhola crematorium at Khurushkul village in Cox's Bazar Sadar upazila and tried to attack the

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Bangladesh-India Friendship Power Company (Pvt.) Ltd.

(A Joint Venture Company of BPDB and NTPC Ltd.)
Borak Unique Heights (Level-17), 117, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Eskaton Garden, Dhaka-1000

Memo No.: BIFPCL/MSTPP/BOTTOM ASH/EOI/2021/825 Date: 30/09/2021

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)
FOR ENLISTMENT OF APPLICANTS
FOR SALE OF DRY BOTTOM ASH FROM
2x660 MW MAITREE SUPER THERMAL POWER PROJECT AT RAMPAL, DISTRICT - BAGERHAT, BANGLADESH

Bangladesh-India Friendship Power Company (Pvt.) Ltd. (BIFPCL) is constructing a 2x660 MW Maitree Super Thermal Power Project (MSTPP), a coal based power project at Rampal, Bagerhat district of Khulna division. Bottom ash shall be generated in dry form and shall be available for sale after commencement of commercial operation of plant.

BIFPCL, through this EOI, intends to qualify and enlist the interested parties who meet envisaged Qualifying Requirement for purchase of Dry Bottom Ash from MSTPP. The parties qualified through this EOI shall only be invited to participate further in tendering process.

For Qualifying Requirement, EOI document and other information, please visit our website at www.bifpcl.com contact Chief Procurement Officer, BIFPCL, Level-17, Unique Heights, 117, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Eskaton Garden, Dhaka-1000, Tel. Nos. +88-0258314264, email: cpo@bifpcl.com DGM (C&M), MSTPP, Rampal, Distt Bagerhat, Bangladesh, Tel. Nos. +8809610203071 (Extn-1131) email: jkbhaskar@bifpcl.com / ah.elect01@bifpcl.com.

Interested parties may submit the Applications for Enlistment (Hard copy/through e-mail) on or before **01/11/2021** at aforesaid Dhaka/Rampal address.

Md. Mofijul Islam, Chief Procurement Officer (CPO)